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WARNING

Walter M. Duzzny; Director

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MARCH 16, 2007:
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Local Amateur Radio Club Celebrates another Milestone

On February 6, 1925 the Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association, MVARA, became an affiliate club of the fledgling American Radio Relay League, the first in the State of Ohio. The MVARA now begins its 82nd year as an ARRL affiliate club. Our original charter was signed by Hiram Percy Maxim, who is honored by Hams as "The Father of Amateur Radio," and the founder of ARRL.

SPECIAL TOPIC: PET SAFETY

"As a general rule of thumb: If you need something, chances are that your pet needs something of a similar nature."



When disaster strikes, people are not the only ones affected – house pets and other domesticated animals need help too. As you prepare for winter storms and other potential emergencies, take some time to plan for your furry friends' safety, and reach out to neighbors who might need assistance with their own pet safety plans.

Have ready an emergency kit for your pets as well as your family. As a general rule of thumb: If you need something, chances are that your pet needs something of a similar nature, such as a 72-hour supply of food and water, medications, identification and other necessities.



**DON'T WAIT FOR AN
EMERGENCY**

Get Involved Now!

The best defense is a good offense. Right now organizations in your community are preparing for the next local emergency; flooding, fires, ice storms, the flu pandemic...They need your help to prepare.

Go to www.citizenscorps.com to see how to sign up for an emergency volunteer opportunity

If you have any information that we can include in the next newsletter, please contact Maggi McGee at 330-740-2081.

PREPARING FOR THE FIRST 72 HOURS: You're Responsible for Yourself!

YOUR DISASTER SUPPLY KIT

Here's what you should have:

- Three-day supply of medications, nonperishable food that does not require cooking, and water (one gallon per person, per day).
- Portable, battery powered radio with extra batteries (or a crank-powered radio)
- Flashlight w/extra batteries (or a hand-powered flashlight)
- First aid kit
- Cash; credit and debit cards might not work
- Telephone that works without electricity; cordless phones don't unless you have a battery backup
- A safe way to heat food and water; camp stove, etc.
- A way to keep warm if the power is off; sleeping bags; extra blankets, etc.
- Items for infants; formula, diapers, etc.
- Food and water for pets

SAFETY TIPS

Here are a few "bad weather" safety tips to help keep you safe in floods, winter storms, and more.

FLOODS:



Protecting your property

- If your home is prone to flooding, move your furnace, water heater and electric panels to higher floors
- Install "check valves" in sewer traps to prevent water from backing up into your house
- Waterproof your basement walls to stop seepage
- Build barriers such as floodwalls/levees to keep out floodwater
- Store insurance policies, deeds and other important records in a safe-deposit box
- Consider purchasing insurance from the National Flood Insurance Program
- Know how to get to higher ground before the flood

Don't Do this....

- **DON'T** drive through flooded waters
- **DON'T** drink water that might be contaminated
- **DON'T** keep food that thawed out for lost refrigeration during a power outage
- **DON'T** run a generator indoors
- **DON'T** stand under tall trees in a thunderstorm
- **DON'T** stand by metal equipment in a thunderstorm
- **DON'T** leave children or pets in a closed car in high heat
- **DON'T** use charcoal, gas or propane grills indoors
- **DON'T** use candles during power outages...unless it's all you have...use battery powered flashlights instead



If stranded in your vehicle....

- Pull off the road; turn on hazards, stay in vehicle
- Do not start walking unless you can see a building in which to take shelter
- Wrap in blankets, seat covers and floor mats to stay warm
- Run the engine 10 minutes each hour-open window for ventilation
- Have a car winter emergency kit:
- Window scraper; batterypowered radio and flashlight (or hand-crank versions); water (commercially bottled) and high-energy snack foods; shovel (collapsible shovels take up very little room in a trunk); blanket (or two) and signal flares

And don't forget....

- Don't forget to change smoke alarm batteries
- Don't forget to check on neighbors, elderly, and those that may need special assistance